

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-8, 11-15, 17-23, 25, and 26 are amended. No new matter is added. In view of at least the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record are respectfully requested.

I. Objections

The Office Action objects to claims 25 and 26 because of informalities. The objections are obviated by the above amendments. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

II. Rejections

Claims 1-8, 13, 14 and 17-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,157,809 (Kambayashi); claims 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kambayashi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,005,565 (Legall); and claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kambayashi in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0147814 (Kimchi). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The applied reference fails to disclose or suggest a method of acquiring description data comprising "a prior step of acquiring and storing in a receiver terminal at least one initial information request comprising the address of at least one audiovisual content description server; wherein the step of acquiring and storing the initial request comprises downloading the initial request," as recited in amended claim 1.

The portion of Kambayashi cited in the Office Action that allegedly discloses the claimed "description data," refers to "program information." See Office Action at page 2. The Office Action also asserts that the "information storage unit" of Kambayashi stores the claimed "initial information request". See Fig. 24, element 2e of Kambayashi.

However, the "program information" in Kambayashi is downloaded and stored in Kambayashi's "information storage unit," as evidenced in col. 19, lines 31-33, "The downloaded program detailed information is stored in an information storage unit 2e included in the receiving terminal 2." The assertions of the Office Action and Kambayashi's disclosure conflict because the alleged "description data" is stored in the "information storage unit" in Kambayashi, not the alleged "initial information request," as evidenced by the portion of the specification cited above.

Furthermore, Kambayashi does not download any initial requests, but only downloads program information as discussed above. As asserted in the Office Action, this program information allegedly corresponds to description data, not the "initial request," recited in claim 1. Similarly, any alleged subsequent information request in Kambayashi is not generated "on the basis of the initial information request," as also recited in claim 1.

Thus, Kambayashi does not disclose or suggest the features recited in amended claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Kambayashi.

In this regard, in some embodiments, the disclosure of the pending application enables a terminal that downloads initial requests to better optimize interaction with description servers to which the program requests are being transmitted. This feature enables the program requests to be perfectly adapted to the description servers. Further, in some embodiments, in situations where a description server is added to the network, or in situations where the description server modifies the form of the program requests that can be sent to, the terminal can download a new initial request adapted to the description servers exigencies. These features are not suggested by Kambayashi.

Independent claim 20 recites similar features in connection with claim 1 above. Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claim 20 is also patentable over Kambayashi.

Claims 2-19 and 21-26 depend from at least one of independent claims 1 and 20, and therefore are also patentable over Kambayashi, either alone or in combination with other references, for at least the reasons enumerated above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:HXJ/jth

Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 6, 2008

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